GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1358
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
TARGET FOR TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target of 250 million telephone subscribers has been achieved well before the target date of December, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the target of 500 million telephone subscribed by 2010 as envisaged in National Telecom Policy is not ambitious and can be achieved well before time;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the overall tele-density achieved as of October, 2007;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the progress of tele-density in rural areas during the last three years as on date, year-wise and State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. As on 31st October, 2007, the number of subscribers is 256.55 million.

(c) & (d) Taking into consideration the present trend of monthly additions, it is expected that the target of 500 million by 2010 can be achieved.

(e) & (f) As on 31st October, 2007, the over all tele-density is 22.52%.

(g) The year-wise and State-wise progress of tele-density in rural areas during the last three years is given in the Annexure.